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"Allas!" quod she, "my swete herte,
Have pitee on my sorwes smerte,
And slee ne not! go noght away! . . .
O, haveth of my death pitee!
Ywis, my dere herte, ye
Knownen ful wel that never yit.
As fer-forth as I hadde wit,
Agilte [I] ow in thoght ne deed.
O, have ye men suich goodliheed
In speche, and never a deel of trouthe? ..."

which corresponds to Boccaccio (cap. xxviii):

"Oimè, Enea, or che t'aveva io fatto
Che fuggendo disii il mio morire?
Non è questo servar tra noi quel patto
Che tui mi promettesti; or m'è palese
L'inganno c'hai coperto con falso atto.
Deh, non fuggir, se l'esser mi cortese
Forse non vogli, vincati pietate
Almen de tuoi."

That Chaucer and Boccaccio differ from Virgil in giving the appeal of Dido this turn will appear if we glance at the only passage of corresponding import in the *Aeneid* (ll. 317 ff.):—

si bene quid de te merui fuit aut tibi quicquam
dulce meum, miserere domus labentes et
istam,
oro, siquis adhuc precibus locus, exue mentem.

Apart from these cases, in which Chaucer has used the same material to the same purpose, others no doubt might be, and in time will be, pointed out where he has simply availed himself of a poetic suggestion. We may close with an example of this, which readily offers itself. When the eagle tells Chaucer to what a vast height they have soared, he makes reference to Icarus (l. 919):

"Ne eek the wrecche Dedalus,
Ne his child, nice Icarus.
That fleighe so highe that the hete
His winges malt, and he fel wete
In-mid the see, and ther he dreynthe,
For whom was maked moch compleynthe."

Put beside this Boccaccio (cap. xxxv):—

Appresso vedi que' che con sottile
Magisterio del padre uscì volando
Del Laberinto, che tenendo vile
Miseramente ciò, ch'ammaestrando
Il padre gli avea detto, per volare
Tropo alto, in giù le sue reti spennando
Ora si cala, e appresso affogare
Più là il vedi ne' salati liti:

The mere fact of common reference to Icarus means of course nothing, but the similarity in character and method, in style and general dimensions, is unmistakable. It is in brief passages like this that Boccaccio now and then succeeds—giving us a graphic picture in miniature and in simple words almost as successfully as Chaucer. But unfortunately he restrains his native humor. The austere seriousness of Petrarch and Dante made it

seem to him unfitting in verse.

Chaucer's mythology was probably Boccaccio's. If this is true and Chaucer owed to Boccaccio the fuller form of stories in the *Legend of Good Women* and elsewhere, the world may be just a shade less unforgiving towards Petrarch for having drawn Boccaccio away from his true calling as a fabulist and maker of exquisite prose in the mother-tongue, to become the Lemprière of his time in a Latin said to be not faultless and certainly without meaning or message for the latter day.

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INDIANA PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

TO THE EDITORS OF MOD. LANG. NOTES:

SIRS:—The Fifth Annual Meeting of the Indiana Philological Society was held in Indianapolis, on May 24th and 25th, 1895. As on previous occasions, the first session was devoted to the discussion of pedagogical topics, the second to the reading of more or less technical papers. The Modern Languages were this time represented by two papers only! "Art in the Faerie Queen," by Miss M. E. Lewis of Coates College; and "A Few Passages in Goethe's Faust," by your correspondent. A third paper, on "The Epigram," by J. H. Howard of Indiana University, reached somewhat into our domain, in so far as the speaker dealt largely with Lessing's views on the subject. The numerous contributions pertaining to Classical Philology were mostly the result of careful work. Altogether, however, the usual mistake was made: an overcrowded program was gone through hastily, little or no allowance being made for discussions or for personal intercourse. A genuine and sound interest was taken in the pedagogical part of the meeting. The subjects discussed were: "Literal vs. Idiomatic Translations," introduced by J. S. Johnson of De Pauw University; and "Language Preparation for Admission to Indiana Colleges: What should be demanded and how may this be secured?" On motion of your correspondent, it was resolved that the Indiana Philological Society appoint a committee of five members, one from each of the five departments represented, who shall act as the organ of the Society during the following year. It shall be their duty to investigate the condition of affairs in regard to language instruction in Indiana, to make suggestions for the improvement of the same, to confer with educational authorities and organizations, and to try in every way to bring about some concerted action throughout the state in the direction of improvement.

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